

## BOX: PATENT APPLICATION

ASA-843-04

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application:

M. ARAKI et al

Serial No. 10/403,277

Filed: April 1, 2003

Group Art Unit:

2182

Examiner:

H. Kim

For:

STORAGE SYSTEM

## UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)

BOX: PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is a request for filing a continuation application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) of pending prior application Serial No. 10/403,277, filed on April 1, 2003, entitled STORAGE SYSTEM, by all of the inventors named in the prior application.

- Enclosed is a copy of the prior application, including the Declaration as originally filed.
  - 2. The Filing Fee is calculated below:

## CLAIMS AS FILED IN THE PRIOR APPLICATION LESS ANY CLAIMS CANCELED BY AMENDMENT BELOW PLUS ANY CLAIMS ADDED BY ACCOMPANYING PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Basic Fee \$ 750.00 Total Claims = \$ 0.00 14 20 10  $\mathbf{x}$ 18 Independent Claims 0.00 2 0 х 84 Total Filing Fee \$ 750.00 10/612905 10/612905 3. A Credit Card Payment Form including the amount of \$750.00 is enclosed to cover the Filing Fee.

5. w 25.

- 4. Cancel claims 2-24 before calculating the Filing Fee.
- 5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.
- 6. Amend the specification by inserting, before the first line:
- --This is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 10/403,277, filed April 1, 2003; which is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/458,705, filed December 13, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,567,865.--.
- 7. New drawings are enclosed, seven (7) sheets, Figs. 1-9.
- 8. The power of attorney is set forth in the Declaration in the prior application or an associate power of attorney is hereby granted to:

Jeffrey M. Ketchum, Registration No. 31,174 Shrinath Malur, Registration No. 34,663 John R. Mattingly, Registration No. 30,293 Daniel J. Stanger, Registration No. 32,846 Gene W. Stockman, Registration No. 21,021.

There is no change in the correspondence address.

Address all future correspondence to:

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C. 1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 370 Alexandria, Virginia 22314 (703) 684-1120.



9. The prior application is assigned to Hitachi, Ltd.

10. Priority of the following Japanese patent application is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119:

No. 10-357253, filed December 16, 1998.

The certified copy has been filed in the parent application.

The undersigned hereby declares that no matter contained in the specification, including the claims, and drawings filed in the present continuation application would have been new matter in the prior application Serial No. 10/403,277, as originally filed on April 1, 2003.

Shrinath Malur

Registration No. 34,663

Attorney of Record

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR 1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 370 Alexandria, Virginia 22314 (703) 684-1120 Date: July 7, 2003